

REMARKS

In the final Office Action dated November 16, 2006, Examiner Reimers maintained the allowability of claims 3-31 and 42-68, but also maintained rejections of claims 1-2 and 38-41. Although it is believed that claims 1-2 and 38-41 are allowable at least for the reasons given in previous correspondence with the PTO, those claims are being cancelled from this application in order to move this application to allowance. Such cancellation is without prejudice to refiling those claims in this or a continuing application.

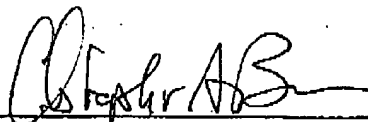
Amendments to the claims have been made, as indicated above, to place them in proper form for allowance. No narrowing of any of the claims is intended, and the claims should be allowed the full scope indicated by their language, including equivalents. New claims 69 and 70 have been added, which correspond respectively to language in original claims 40 and 41. No new matter has been added. They are dependent from claim 42, which is allowable, and at least on that basis no new issues for examination are raised. Entry of these amendments and new claims is respectfully requested.

It should be understood that the above remarks are not intended to provide an exhaustive basis for patentability or concede the basis for the rejections in the Office Action but are simply provided to address the rejections made in the Office Action in the most expedient fashion. Applicant reserves the right to later contest positions taken in the Office Action that are not specifically addressed herein. Further, no limitation of the claims is intended by any of the remarks herein. The claims are intended to have the full scope to which their language entitles them, including equivalents.

In conclusion, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims based on the remarks presented is respectfully requested. The undersigned attorney invites Examiner Reimers to call to discuss any further issues that may remain.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

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